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A Weekly

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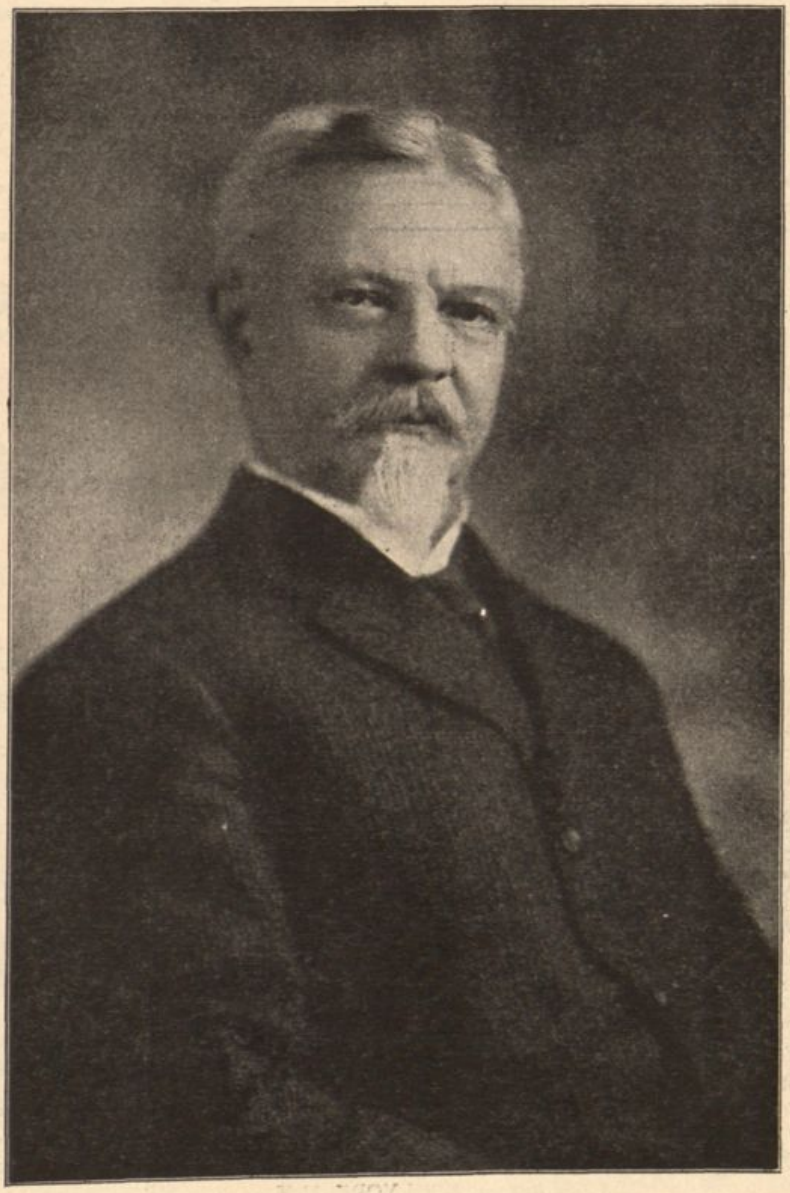

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PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE UNION

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Vol. II. No. 5 MARCH 10, 1915 Price, 5 Cents

SHALL AMERICA SUBMIT TO GREAT BRITAIN'S COMMERCIAL YOKE?

Exactions in Gross Violation of Our Anti-Trust Laws, Forced from U. S. Rubber Manufacturers, Give Great Britain Arbitrary Control of Industry—Wool Business Conducted Under British "Approval"—Copper Production Decreased 50 Per Cent. by Interference—Cotton Shipments X-rayed by British Agents

1775 vs. 1915—Shall This Country Supinely Submit to the Humiliation of Great Britain's Arrogant Dominance?

DEFYING the very laws of the United States enacted for the protection and freedom of trade, Great Britain has forced from the rubber and woolen manufacturers of this country agreements declared by legal authorities to be in violation of Federal enactments and by the terms of which England assumes arbitrary control of two great national industries. According to the agreement imposed upon rubber manufacturers, no rubber whatever can be sold to Germany or Austria-Hungary, and sales to neutral European countries can be made only through a British agent, the shipments being sent by way of London. Woolen products cannot be sold outside of the United States except to Great Britain and her allies.

These agreements are said by lawyers to be in gross violation of the original Sherman act and the act of Feb. 12, 1913. Indefensible from every legal and ethical standpoint, the exactions of the rubber contracts establish precedents of grave menace to America's commercial future. The business interests of the United States, by submitting to the terms of Great Britain, are humiliated and our industrial dignity and independence gravely imperilled and outraged.

Pursuing her arrogant policy of contraband, Great Britain has practically throttled this country's hundred million dollar copper export trade, the value of her seizures up to the first of the year aggregating, even at depressed market prices, five and a half million dollars.

While the great copper interests of America have made insistent protests to the Department of State—but without avail—the conditions and restrictions placed upon the rubber and wool industries have, under the stress of circumstances, been assented to by manufacturers voluntarily. Great Britain's sea policy was effective in shutting off supplies necessary for the conduct of business. Great Britain took advantage to make her own terms. That these terms conflict with the laws of the United States was no obstacle to Great Britain's assuming practical control of these vast industries. They are now, if you please, conducted by the grace and consent of Great Britain, according to terms laid down by Great Britain, and to Great Britain's advantage at the expense of our manufacturers.

The Heel Upon Our Neck

On the pretext that rubber and copper may be smuggled into ships destined for European ports, Great Britain has now undertaken an examination of cotton shipments. At the ports of Galveston and New York, agents of the British government subject bales of export cotton to X-Ray machines, issuing certificates (*of the British Government*) to the captains of the vessels carrying shipments passed upon. The hatches of ships carrying cotton, whatever their nationality, are sealed by *British or French* consular representatives.

Shall American business continue inertly and supinely to submit to England's shameful and humiliating espionage? Will the Government of the United States permit the interference on the part of Great Britain with its rubber and wool trades by restrictions said to be in flagrant violation of national laws? Will the Department of State ignore the absolute crippling of our copper industry which amounts to 60 per cent. of the world's supply? Shall Great Britain be permitted to hold shipments of copper, worth millions of dollars, the disposition of which is unknown, knowledge being denied the owners? Shall our neutral copper trade be wiped out, or shall we as an alternative submit to Britain's ulterior regulations by which copper shall be sold to neutral countries only through British agents, at an exorbitant commission, or to British manufacturers at their own prices?

Under these insufferable indignities and insults, affecting our whole commercial life, the press of the United States has remained silent, or, if it has expressed itself, has been temporizing, conciliatory, wheedlingly weak and sickeningly sychophant. "Better Times for Rubber Industry" was the head under which the New York *Herald* told of the unlawful agreement whereby England consented to permit the import of rubber to the United States.

"The rubber trade as a whole is satisfied with the terms of the guarantees given by the manufacturers that they will not export manufactured rubber goods to the enemies of Great Britain nor to neutral European countries except through Great Britain," said the *Herald*, "and they may export to non-European countries by merely forwarding to the British Consul a memorandum of the shipment."

"The rubber trade is *not* satisfied," declared a member of the Rubber Club of America. "But rubber manufacturers were helpless. Great Britain had the power to force her terms. She had shut off plantation rubber which is necessary for part of our business. We had the alternative of agreeing or going out of business. The terms are hindering, unlawful and humiliating. But no single manufacturer dare protest publicly. He must be silent, submissive, or suffer *boycott*. That is what the threat of Britain amounts to."

British Monopoly of Rubber

Until the terms of the present agreement, which every individual manufacturer must adhere to in order to obtain raw rubber, were decided upon by the Rubber Club of America and the

British representatives, shipments of plantation rubber were held up. The prospects were that 250,000 men would be thrown out of employment. Great Britain appreciated this country's dilemma and dictated the terms whereby she would graciously permit the delivery of rubber from her colonies. These terms, be it marked, included a restriction of Brazilian rubber in the disposition of which England has no justifiable right on earth to interfere.

The specifications of the agreement whereby England has lifted the rubber embargo, as embodied in a circular sent to the firm members of the Rubber Club of America and the Rubber Trade Association of New York, are as follows:

Restriction of Exports

"First.—Manufacturers cannot export or sell to any one who might export crude rubber, waste rubber or reclaimed rubber except to Great Britain or a British possession. They may not sell plantation rubber even to any one in the United States. A manufacturer may, however, sell Brazilian rubber to a customer in the United States, but for his own protection should assure himself that no exportation is intended.

"All plantation rubber must be used in the factory of the manufacturer for whom it is imported."

Shipments via London

"Second.—No direct shipments or partly manufactured goods may be made to a European neutral, like Sweden, Holland or Italy. Such orders can be filled only through an agent in London. For example, an order for automobile tires for Sweden cannot be shipped direct. You must appoint an agent in London, and he must get a permit from the British government to ship the goods from London to Sweden. This having been arranged, you can forward the goods to your London agent.

"It is recognized that this mode of shipment is difficult for those who have no London agent, and the embargo committee is endeavoring to secure the acceptance of a plan which will greatly simplify it.

"To such manufacturers as have no London agents the secretary is prepared to recommend firms of forwarding agents with both New York and London houses who can attend to such business.

"Third.—Bear in mind that the British consul general at New York has no authority to modify these rulings. If you attempt to make a shipment direct to Sweden and have the papers vised by the British consul you are still in violation of your obligation. Informing the consul that you are about to violate will not help you. His signature means only that he has been informed, not that your obligations have been modified by him."

No Sales to Germany

"Fourth.—No goods must be sold for delivery to an enemy of Great Britain. This is plain enough. If through intent, carelessness or misfortune your goods are found in transit to Germany your permit will be canceled. You must be sure. This does not mean, we are informed, that there must be an agreement not to export accompanying every tire you sell, but every reasonable precaution must be taken. You should have definite agreements from every customer who is likely to export, and we would suggest the use of a rubber stamp for all orders and invoices, stating that the goods are sold with the understanding that they are not to be exported, except to Great Britain, France or Russia or to a European neutral by way of the United Kingdom or to a non-European neutral.

"Fifth.—All goods exported to a non-European neutral, like the South American countries, Mexico or Cuba, must be reported to the British consul at the port of shipment. We recommend that this report state only of what the shipment consists and the port of destination. We do not understand that it is necessary to state prices or even the name of the consignee.

"Sixth.—Pending further information we would also advise notifying the British consul of shipment to Porto Rico, the Philippine Islands and the Hawaiian Islands.

"Seventh.—Tires which you export must bear adequate marks of identification. You must inform the British consul in writing, stating what these are.

"Eighth.—The question has been raised whether or not rubber from the Dutch East Indies will come under these obligations. On this point we would strongly advise, pending further information, that Dutch rubber be regarded exactly the same as if it were plantation rubber; otherwise misunderstandings will almost surely arise, and the shipper would perhaps suffer cancellation of his permits pending investigation."

In order to receive shipments of rubber each American manufacturer must swear to conform to the terms of the agreement under seal of a notary. In a communication sent out to its members by the Rubber Club of America on January 30th and signed by the embargo committee, consisting of Arthur H. Marks, of the B. F. Goodrich Company; H. Stuart Hotchkiss, of the United States Rubber Company; George B. Hodgman, of the Hodgman Rubber Company, and William E. Bruyn, of L. Littlejohn & Company, manufacturers are warned against violating the agreement in the following succinct and poignant English:

Obey or Suffer

"In general it is unquestionably the desire of Sir Francis Hopwood, who is in charge, that everything consistent with the protection of British interests shall be done for the convenience of the American industry and as rapidly as the organization can be perfected for handling it. If any part of the plan proves too cumbersome after trial it is believed any reasonable relief can be secured.

"Sir Richard Crawford has just arrived and will be attached to the British embassy as commercial attache. *It will be a part of his duties to deal with the problems arising in connection with the rubber situation and it is promised that he will co-operate fully with this committee.*

"Sir Francis Hopwood made it particularly clear to Mr. Work that the American industry could feel secure under the present plan unless numerous violations occurred. *Emphatic warning was given that in case any manufacturer, importer or dealer came under suspicion his permits should be immediately revoked. Reinstatement will be slow and difficult. The British government will cancel first and investigate afterward.*"

British Forced Terms

The recent arrangements had their origin in dealings between one of the biggest rubber manufacturers and the London board of trade. Although plantation rubber, most of which comes from Ceylon, comprises only about one-tenth of that used in manufacture, it is still a necessary commodity. Taking advantage of our needs Great Britain, in making terms for the delivery of this kind of rubber, has assumed also to restrict the distribution of Brazilian rubber, which comprises about 90 per cent. of that used in the industry.

Flagrant Violation of U. S. Laws

How, let us ascertain, do the restrictions placed upon our rubber trade by Great Britain, conform to the laws of the United States?

Article first of the Rubber agreement reads thus:

"Manufacturers cannot export or sell to any one who might export crude rubber, waste rubber or reclaimed rubber except to Great Britain or a British possession. They may not sell plantation rubber even to any one in the United States."

This restriction is in indubitable violation of Section 73 of the Act of February 12, 1913 (Cl. 40) which is as follows:

"That every combination, conspiracy, trust, agreement or contract is hereby declared to be contrary to public policy, illegal and void when the same is made by or between two or more persons or corporations either of whom as agent or principal is engaged in importing any article from any foreign country into the United States, and *where such combination, conspiracy, trust, agreement or contract is intended to operate in restraint of lawful trade or free competition in lawful trade or commerce,* or to increase the market price in any part of the United States of any article or articles imported or intended to be imported into the United States, or of any manufacture into which said imported article centers or is intended to center."

This act specifically mentions persons or corporations engaged *"in importing any article from any foreign country."* The prohibition imposed upon rubber manufacturers by Great Britain to the effect *"that they cannot sell to anyone who might sell"* in the first clause of the rubber agreement brings this directly within the provision of this act. Even more gross, more insolent in its defiance of the law is the restriction: *"They may not sell plantation rubber even to anyone in the United States."*

Let us examine this amazing agreement—imposed upon our manufacturers by a foreign power actuated solely by its own motives—further. The fourth section reads:

"No goods must be sold for delivery to an enemy of Great Britain. . . . If through intent, carelessness or misfortune your goods are found in transit to Germany your permit will be canceled. . . . You should have definite agreements from every customer who is likely to export, and we would suggest the use of a rubber stamp for all orders and invoices, stating that the goods are sold *with the understanding that they are not to be exported, except to Great Britain, France or Russia or to a European neutral by way of the United Kingdom or to a non-European neutral."*

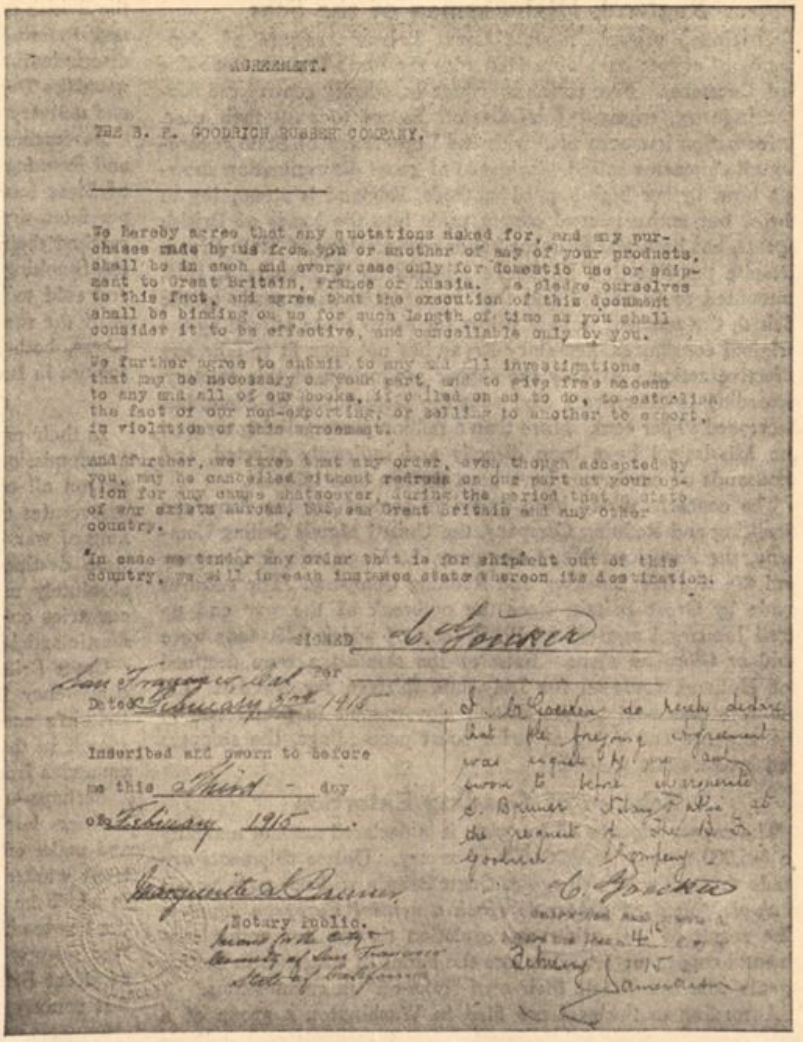
Let us refer to the Sherman Act, of July 2, 1890:

Sec. 3—Every contract, combination in form of trust or otherwise, or conspiracy, in restraint of trade or commerce in any Territory of the United States or of the District of Columbia, or *in restraint of trade or commerce* between any such Territory and another or between any such Territory or Territories and any State or States or the District of Columbia, *or with foreign nations* or between the District of Columbia and any State or States or foreign nations, is hereby declared illegal. Every person who shall make any such contract or engage in any such combination or conspiracy shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor or conviction thereof, shall be punished by fine not exceeding $5,000 or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, or by both said punishments in the discretion of the court."

Thus does Great Britain respect the laws of the United States?

Comment is well-nigh unnecessary. Our courts send criminals to prison, yet Great Britain makes of our manufacturers enforced criminals. Can honest, patriotic men realize this indignity, this insult, and not wince with indignation and shame?

Men of America, we have told you facts. If your Government is acquiescent and sluggard, if your press is fulsomely lickspittle in its grovelling to John Bull and John Bull's financial influence, then it is up to you.



AGREEMENT.

THE B. F. GOODRICH RUBBER COMPANY,

We hereby agree that any quotations asked for, and any purchases made by us from you or another of any of your products, shall be in each and every case only for domestic use or shipment to Great Britain, France or Russia. We pledge ourselves to this fact, and agree that the execution of this document shall be binding on us for such length of time as you shall consider it to be effective, and cancellable only by you.

We further agree to submit to any and all investigations that may be necessary on your part, and to give free access to any and all of our books, if called on so to do, to establish the fact of our non-exporting, or selling to another to export, in violation of this agreement.

And further, we agree that any order, even though accepted by you, may be cancelled without redress on our part at your option for any cause whatsoever, during the period that a state of war exists abroad, but see Great Britain and any other country.

In case we tender any order that is for shipment out of this country, we will in each instance state thereon its destination.

Signed C. Goecker

Dated February 3rd 1915

Inscribed and sworn to before me this Third day of February 1915.

Marguerite A. Brown
Notary Public.
Notary for the City and County of San Francisco State of California

YOU SIGN THIS—YOU GET RUBBER

Do You Like Being Made an Enforced Criminal, Mr. Manufacturer?

The agreement, which rubber manufacturers must sign, is in clear violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Law, and the following Act of February 12, 1913:

Sec. 73. That every combination, conspiracy, trust, agreement or contract is hereby declared to be contrary to public policy, illegal and void when the same is made by or between two or more persons or corporations either of whom as agent or principal is engaged in importing any article from any foreign country into the United States, and where such combination, conspiracy, trust, agreement or contract is intended to operate in restraint of lawful trade or free competition in lawful trade or commerce, or to increase the market price in any part of the United States of any article or articles imported or intended to be imported into the United States, or of any manufacture into which said imported article centers or is intended to center. Every person who is or shall thereafter be engaged in the importation of goods or any commodity from any foreign country in violation of this section of this Act, or who shall continue to conspire with another to violate the same, is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction thereof in any Court of the United States said person shall be fined in a sum not less than $100.00 and not exceeding $500.00, shall be further punished by imprisonment in the discretion of the Court for a term not less than three months nor exceeding twelve months.

Sec. 76. That any property owned under any contract or by any combination, and being the subject thereof mentioned in Section 73 of this Act, imported into and being in this, the United States or being in the course of transportation from one state to another or to or from a Territory or the District of Columbia, shall be forfeited to the United States, and may be seized and condemned by like proceedings as those founded by law for the forfeiture, seizure and condemnation of property imported into the United States contrary to law.

Britain Fleecing the Wool Trade

Terms similar to those imposed on the rubber industry govern the import of wool. At the outbreak of the war Great Britain placed an embargo on all shipments of wool from England and Australia to all countries except Russia and France. On January 16 the British Embassy announced that merino wool might be exported to the United States provided the shipper made a statutory declaration that the consignee was known to him and that none of the merino would be shipped out of the United States. A representative of the Textile Alliance later went to London and began negotiations for the unconditioned import of wool. It was made evident to England that a shortage of wool here, with the consequent rise in price, might possibly react upon her should she desire to purchase woolen goods in this country for her soldiers. Many American buyers were averse to participating in the annual wool auctions in Australia because of the feeling that there was no assurance that their purchases could be shipped to the United States. This in turn was bound to affect the Australian wool growers because of the oversupply there and the consequent drop in prices. England saw light—but as it focused only upon her selfish advantages. While the United States State Department did not feel it could itself give the guarantees that Great Britain required, this impediment to meeting Great Britain's arrogant demands was overcome by the Textile Alliance.

Upon the return from London of their legal adviser, representatives of the Textile Alliance met Sir Richard Crawford, England's commercial attache, at the British Embassy in Washington, and terms were agreed upon whereby England would permit the import of wool into the United States. Under these terms the Textile Alliance becomes a surety for the declaration that finished wool products will not be sold outside the United States except to *Great Britain and her allies.* Wool shipments are licensed only when consigned to the president of the Alliance.

England, Highwayman of the Seas

Continued protests against Great Britain's seizure of shipments of copper have been filed with the State Department since last December. Five concerns, which practically control the copper industry, engaged John Bassett Moore to push their case. Information has been filed with the Department of State regarding all shipments seized. Evidence of gross discrimination showing how, by her high-handed methods, England is attempting to throw our entire neutral copper trade into the hands of British agents, has been placed in the hands of Secretary of State Bryan. Despite the fact that England's seizures up to January 1, 1915, amounted to $5,500,000 and that four forced sales made to the British Government were at prices far below those offered by the original consignees, Secretary Bryan has not seen fit to take any effective action. Already the copper production of this country, according to statements filed with the Department of State, has decreased 50 per cent. More than a million persons living west of the Mississippi have been directly and indirectly affected, and thousands of employees have been thrown into idleness.

The concerns which have united in protest are the American Smelting and Refining Company, the United Metals Selling Company, the American Metal Company, L. Vogelstein & Company and the Norfolk Smelting and Refining Company. The seizures made by Great Britain since the outbreak of the war and up until January 1 aggregated 19,350 tons, of which 9,350 tons were held at Gibraltar alone. Four of the shipments were destined for Holland, fourteen for Italy, and thirteen for Sweden. On the four lots sold to the British Government in preference to the expense and delay of prize court proceedings, the shippers and brokers lost $30,000.

Scheme of Goading Extortion

The copper exports of America, it is declared amount annually to 346,000 tons or $107,260,000 in money. Unless shipments are made through a British agent, Great Britain will not now *permit a single pound of copper to reach a neutral European country.* The result of this arbitrary regulation throws our entire continental copper export trade into the hands of unaltruistic British agents who can dictate their own "rake-off" in commissions.

According to the evidence filed in Washington a group of a half dozen English agents are levying a one per cent. toll on every ton of copper exported from the United States. *The United Metals Selling Company, unable to make a single sale to Europe direct, has been able, on the other hand, to make sales unrestrictedly when selling through Charles Henry & Company, paying, of course, a commission to the British agent on every sale. Charles Henry is a member of the English Parliament.*

About the middle of last December a representative of Henry E. Merton & Co., the largest metal dealers in England, arrived in New York with a proposal that the copper concerns of this country pool their interests and agree to sell abroad only through Merton & Company. Merton & Company said they would guarantee all deliveries and eliminate any possible trouble with the regulations of the British Admiralty. The offer was indignantly refused.

About the middle of January a cable was received from Merton & Company by the American Smelting and Refining Company, the United Metals Selling Company and the American Metal Company, as follows: "HAVE SIGNED EXPLICIT AGREEMENT WITH BRITISH ADMIRALTY; FILE WITH IT CERTIFIED COPY OF EVERY CONTRACT BY OR THROUGH US FOR SHIPMENTS AMERICAN HOUSES."

Indefensible Discrimination Against U. S.

In a letter to Senator Walsh, of Montana, the second largest State in copper production, the American Smelting and Refining Co. declared that of the copper seized at Gibraltar all that was found to be in control of British agents was promptly released and forwarded to its destination. But that sold direct from the United States to the identically same Italian firms with which the British merchants dealt was held up. The American Smelting and Refining Company said this is evidence of such flagrant discrimination in favor of British merchants that it is incumbent upon the Department of State to press a demand for the release and delivery of the copper thus held.

As further evidence of discrimination, the American Smelting and Refining Company, in a communication to Acting Secretary of State Lansing, declared that shipments of Bessemerized copper from the United States Company, handled by British agents, reached their destination, while another shipment by the American Smelting and Refining Company, sent on the *Regina d' Italia* and sold to a firm in Turin, was seized and held. This copper is of the same class as that successfully delivered through Britishers, both to be used for conversion into sulphate of copper for use in Italian vineyards.

Great Britain's "Consistency!"

In their protest, the mining interests assert that, in addition to a commission, British agents take a warehouse toll of $1.10 a ton on all copper embargoed by Great Britain. While Britain asseverates that the increased export of copper after the beginning of war to Continental neutral countries was proof that these were destined for Germany, manufacturers say this excuse is absolutely unwarranted and flimsy, and that, in reality, neutral countries only want to afford their own population with the domestic articles of copper and brass hitherto supplied by Germany.

Great Britain, in making her own policies, as heretofore, finds consistency incompatible with her interests. Coal is on Great Britain's contraband list. Yet, as Senator Walsh stated in a speech in the Senate, Britain is selling coal to the very neutral countries from whom she is withholding American copper.

Perhaps—unless our Government is forced by the outraged business interests of this country to take self-respecting action and make effective protest—there is something of prophecy in a letter written to the New York *Tribune* by William Bayard Hale, in which he says the unjust discrimination against Germany and the kowtowing to England on part of American editors inspires "the gravest anxiety lest our complaisance under the arrogance of Great Britain may tempt it to steps which may at last arouse this country to a dangerous temper."

How Long Shall We Submit?

It is possible that England may regard the United States of America as a worm. That worm turned in 1775. England's boot is pressing down hard, and ruthlessly again, and where, in trampling our industrial life, it hurts seriously and vitally. Perhaps Britain may be mistaken in her haughty, goadingly, humiliating assumption that as a nation we are bloodless, spineless, supine and utterly contemptible. The worm may turn again, and with no less reason. England's selfish greed is costing this great country incalculably more to-day than it did the original States at the time the citizens of Boston, resenting just such injustice, held their famous tea party. The really amazing thing is that Great Britain should be so carried away in the autointoxication of her sea power and world overlordship that she should dare treat a nation of our achievements and magnitude as an enslaved, unrespected and altogether despised dependency.

PRESIDENT OF THE A. I. U.

THE FATHERLAND takes pleasure in presenting the picture of Rep. Richard Bartholdt on the cover of this week's issue. The editors have selected Mr. Bartholdt's picture to adorn their cover, partly as a tribute to his distinguished service in Congress for a period of more than twenty years, but more particularly because he has been selected as the man best qualified to head the new organization of American citizens who demand fair play and a benevolent neutrality towards all nations in American politics—the American Independence Union.

THE MEN OF THE A. I. U.

An Open Letter to a New England Editor on a Purely American Topic

Editor Providence *Journal*.

Dear Sir: Some one has called my attention to your article of February 3, "Deutschland Ueber U. S. A.," in which my name appears as one of the objectionable Germans who attended and signed the resolutions of the Washington conference of January 30, which you describe as a German mass meeting pure and simple.

Of course, you base your information as to the nationality of the conference entirely upon the evidence of the names, which are German names; and your phlegmatic way of disposing of these citizens because of their names being German forcibly reminds us that we are not entirely out of the enemy's country. In Canada and in British ports American citizens with German names were arrested and jailed with the same calm indifference displayed in your editorial. Perhaps this will serve in a measure to explain why the so-called German-American element, the element with German names, is so thoroughly aroused and not disposed to accept the rank of subordinates which the self-constituted "American" element in the United States—in other words, descendants of English immigrants—endeavors to assign to it in our political scheme of government.

My father and myself represent only about 85 years of American life, but a number of those so-called Germans who attended the conference descended from German, Dutch and Swedish forefathers who were contemporary with William Penn and Benjamin Franklin. Others are the descendants of Germans who were pioneers in Nebraska, Wisconsin and Minnesota—one man survived from the Indian massacre of New Ulm on the Northwest frontier. Congressman Lobeck's grandfather, for example, was a German who carved his fortune out of 160 acres of land in the West when it was necessary to carry a rifle strapped across the plow handle. (Note that the pioneer work in this country was not performed wholly by men from New England.) Mr. Lobeck's grandmother was a native of Sweden. Messrs. Bernard and Victor Ridder are Americans of German descent in the third generation. Several of the Pennsylvania congressmen with German names trace their descent to German immigrants of 1683 with strong intermediate racial mixtures. Prof. Shepherd, who attended the conference, is of pure Anglican descent; Prof. Hall of pure Irish ancestry; John Devoy, the well-known editor, is an Irishman.

The conference, in fact, was as representative of American political life as thousands of conferences held all over the West, from the Alleghenies to the Sierras and from Lake Superior to the Southern border of Missouri, comprehending the industrial center of the United States and the smallest percentage of illiteracy. In this region, I am happy to say, it would be difficult to find a representative paper taking the attitude that you do—not because you differ from many of us as to the war, but because you assume that American citizens of German descent, or German names, represent an element detached from the great body of American voters and upholders of the Constitution, and because you think you can deny us the right to exercise our privilege to protest against a violation of those doctrines of American liberty which we hold to be as sacred as you pretend to do.

Do you object to the resolutions adopted at the conference?

Do you object to an American cable to insure an independent news service? Yes, because you say the American public is well satisfied with the quality of its present cable service. But it is not. You represent and speak for only a part of the population of the United States, and I assure you there are upward of 5,000,000 American voters who are not satisfied with a daily rehash in their local papers of what the London *Times*, the London *Post*, *Express*, *Mail*, *Westminster Gazette*, *Telegraph*, *Globe* or *Chronicle* prints on the subject of the war, to the exclusion of the news from other belligerents. If this blissful contempt for both sides of a controversy, for fair play, is typically American, as understood in the section in which your paper circulates, I may be excused for saying that I would prefer to swear allegiance to the British crown without further ado and have done with it.

Do you object to "a free and open sea" for our commerce, and unrestricted traffic in non-contraband goods, as defined by international law? If you do, are you an American or an Englishman?

Do you object to legislation prohibiting the export of arms and ammunition? I suppose the principle of trade and traffic decides your point of view. A recent Sunday issue of the New York *Sun* had the story of a young Yale student named Lewellyn, who enlisted in the German army and was wounded in France. He got the iron cross, and they took two bullets out of his flesh that had been manufactured in Connecticut. The conference in Washington was attended by an American of old Yankee stock. He told me of a letter he had received from his sister who had married in Germany and had three sons at the front. One was killed with American bullets, and what she wrote her brother about her native country would not make good reading in your virtuous paper.

Do you object to the establishment of an American merchant marine? Whether you do or not, will you kindly point out in what this resolution conflicts with the duties of an American citizen, even an American citizen canonized by the blood of the merry voyagers of the *Mayflower?*

And finally, as to the last of the resolutions, will you enlighten a puzzled reader what an American citizen who has, discreetly or indiscreetly, been entrusted with the

ballot is to do to express his dissent from a public policy but to vote as his conscience dictates? Are you going to impeach, indict and what-not every voter who does not vote on election day as you would have him vote? Or are your strictures intended to bear down thus hardly on citizens only who had the misfortune to have ancestors who were not born in England?

This is all we ask in our five resolutions. If they are un-American we are subject to the charge of disloyalty. If they are within the rights of American citizens, if the right to express political opinions has not been repealed by Congressional action or Constitutional conventions ratified by three-fourths of the States, we are not disloyal, and I defy you to give any substantial ground for your editorial except an inbred prejudice against Germans and Americans with German names.

There was no such prejudice against them when nearly two hundred thousand entered the Union army as volunteers and fought for the preservation of the Union. If you wish to cut out German-named citizens from American affairs, you might begin with Adolf Ochs, who owns the New York *Times;* Mr. Villard, editor of the New York *Evening Post;* the Pulitzers, owners of the New York *World,* and Mr. Reick, publisher of the New York *Sun.* You should purge American history of such names as General Muhlenberg, of Baron De Kalb, of General von Steuben, of General Herkimer, and the thousands of Pennsylvania German soldiers and the Mohawk Valley Germans who fought in the Revolution. You should eliminate from its pages the names of Generals Custer, Rosecranz, Osterhaus, Sigel, Schurz, Colonel Willich and Admiral Schley. You seem to profit with other Americans of Anglican stock by the inventions of Germans like Mergenthaler; of Berliner, the inventor of the microphone, or Steinmetz, the right-hand man of Edison and one of the greatest, if not the greatest, electricians in the world. You avail yourself, like every other good American, of the invention of Daimler, whose modern gas engine made possible the automobile and the aeroplane; and you have the full benefit of the modern dynamo invented by Werner Siemens.

We claim no merit and no privileges outside of or above other Americans. We venerate the traditions of this country as sincerely as you do, for our forefathers had a hand in their making as well as yours; we respect the memory of the Pilgrims as we do that of the Cavaliers; but we repudiate any obligations and subservience to England, which was not *our* mother country, but which on all possible occasions manifested her animosity toward the United States. We claim only the right of American citizens to express our disapproval of administrative policies which are in conflict with our interests as well as the ethics of fair play and the kind of neutrality proclaimed by Washington, Jefferson, and by Roosevelt as late as 1905. In the words of the first President, we hold it to be "the duty and interest of the United States that they should with sincerity and good faith adopt and pursue a conduct friendly and impartial toward the belligerent powers."

We ask no more.

Yours truly,

FREDERICK F. SCHRADER.

THE CHICAGO PRIMARY ELECTION

IT is evident that the spirit of the American Independence Union is making itself felt in the field of politics, as evidenced by the recent Chicago primary election, in which Sweitzer was nominated for mayor over Carter Harrison by 75,000 majority. Harrison had the support of the Wilson administration, while Sweitzer had the support of thousands of men and women who, although Democrats, are thoroughly out of harmony with the administration in its attitude on neutrality. It is not proposed to draw the line on petty issues; but all things being equal as regards candidates, the candidate favoring fair play in our national policies and openly professing, as did Mr. Sweitzer, a legitimate pride in his German ancestry, is likely to get the support of the independent element henceforth.

The New York *American* of February 26 comments editorially on the Chicago primary, and hints at the cause of Harrison's defeat as follows:

"A friend of the triumphant Sweitzer declares that it was a triumph of the German-American element—a sort of first fruit of the Hon. Richard Bartholdt's proposition to make a domestic political party out of an international issue. If so, it is a sorry thing for Chicago."

The importance of the new movement in our national life is duly recognized by *Leslie's Weekly,* which declares in an editorial:

The new pro-German political party representing from eight to ten million persons of German birth and descent in the United States, must have a decided sentimental influence in the next Presidential campaign if it maintains its purpose. Its practical result must await the count of the ballots. The fact that in Passaic, N. J., the German element has already organized to take an active part in local politics indicates the strength of the movement.

The success with which certain leaders of the Labor and Prohibition parties have carried on their political propaganda, following the success, in other years, of the Granger, the Populist, Greenback, Know-nothing and Anti-Masonic movements, has, no doubt, stimulated the German element to take decisive action in the belief that only in this way can its influence be made effective. If this movement goes on, and if the war abroad should be prolonged for another year, we shall find both the great political parties bidding for the German vote, and as this will surpass in numbers that of the so-called Labor vote and perhaps equal the Prohibition vote, the political situation promises to become interesting.

For the first time since the war between the States in 1860, we shall feel that our isolation is not complete, but that war among the great powers abroad has a profound interest for us. These

powers, who face each other like bulldogs, at all times, have thus far been kept too busy to bother us. They have been eager to retain our friendship, though it is suspected that their sub-cellar diplomacy plays no little part in the pugnacious attitude Japan now and then manifests toward the United States, or rather toward the legislation of certain States for which the federal Government is not responsible. If the United States and Japan can be kept barking at each other, as England and Germany have been barking at each other for years, Europe will not shed tears, for "misery loves company."

The advent of a well-organized German party in American politics, with its demand that we shut off supplies from all of the belligerents, Great Britian included, supported as this party would be by an influential German press, would complicate the Presidential canvass and put a damper on the aspirations of some of the candidates now in sight. If to the anti-British feeling of the Germans we add the anti-British feeling among the strong Irish element, and if we consider the inroads on both political parties the Prohibitionists are making, we shall find something to take the place of the "Progressive" break that destroyed Republican prospects in the last Presidential campaign.

A year hence the National Committees will name the time and place for the holding of the respective Presidential conventions, and fifteen months from this time the next Presidential campaign will open with all the candidates in the field. It is obvious that the new factor now looming up must cause greater anxiety to the party in power than to the one that seeks to regain control.

HUMANENESS

By Dr. Edmund von Mach

THE Boston papers recently were full of accounts of the newly built Angell Memorial Hospital for Animals, and pictured the ingenious device of an operating table for horses. The horse can be strapped to the table standing, and being firmly secured in what is for him a natural position "feels none of the mental anguish incident to the struggle" which used to precede his being placed on the old operating table. The new table moves on pivots, and is not turned to the horizontal until after the horse is secured.

This and many other clever devices offered the Boston editors the opportunity of congratulating themselves and their readers on their humaneness. "And it was," says the *Herald*, "just like Boston to rear its handsome hospital for animals side by side with those for folks." Quite true! but it is also just like the gentlemen of the pro-English press not to tell their readers that at the same time in Boston harbor 1,200 splendid American horses were being loaded in English ships to die a miserable death on the battlefields of Europe! And 1,200 were shipped from Boston last week, while from October 1 to December 31, America has sent 70,849 horses to their horrible fate. Compare these figures—70,849 horses—with the total American export for the same period of 1913, 4,784 horses, and you will get an idea of the immense drain on the American market.

When in a very short while the prices of horses will rise to a point where the small farmers, who will no longer be able to afford them, will be forced to abandon their farms; when in consequence the unemployed in the cities will grow in numbers, and less food will be produced, and the necessities of life will grow dearer, will these pro-English gentlemen then have the courage to tell the American people "We could have avoided this if we had laid an embargo on the exportation of horses"? And will they add, "To do this, public opinion had to demand it, but by suppressing the facts we prevented the formation of a wholesome public opinion, and the reason why we did not give you the figures was that we feared the English might not like it"?

Economically this policy is incredibly shortsighted; and morally it is vicious. We congratulate ourselves on saving from "mental anguish" a few horses operated on in the Angell hospital, while we send more than seventy thousand horses to suffer terrible agonies on the battlefield. Those who have been in war tell us that the suffering of the dumb animals transcends all power of description. Painfully wounded they are left to die alone, for only after the human wounded have been collected can any attention be paid to man's best friend—the horse!

In October we shipped 12,091 horses, in November 28,071, and in December 30,687. The official figures for January may reach fifty thousand and more. The harm thus done to the economic life of America is almost irreparable, and demands a speedy check on the part of the Government. Its viciousness, however, is comparable only to that of our persisting in the traffic in cartridges, shrapnel, and other munitions of war.

Letters from the battle front are beginning to tell of the deadly effect of the American granates which have a far greater percentage of efficiency than the French or English granates formerly had. From day to day America can feel more certain that the German and Austrian youths killed or wounded on the battlefield owe pain or death, not to the people whom they are fighting, but to America. If the Americans were a callous nation, unmoved by higher considerations than the wish to make money, their course would be natural. But the Americans have a conscience, and sooner or later they will rue having listened to those who told them that so long as they can turn a penny they need not consider ethical values.

Men do not live by bread alone, and nations do not prosper when they prate goodness and fair neutrality, and commit murder by turning their factories over to the god of war!

THE FATHERLAND

Fair Play for Germany and Austria-Hungary

Edited by
GEORGE SYLVESTER VIERECK
FREDERICK F. SCHRADER

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European Representative, LOUIS VIERECK, Suedwestkorso 8, Berlin-Friedenau.

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NEW FATHERLAND BRANCH OFFICES

We take pleasure in announcing that we have opened FATHERLAND Branch Offices in Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Louis. The addresses with the names of the managers are herewith given.

CHICAGO, Ill., Manager, Sigmund Krausz, 332 S. Michigan Ave.
MILWAUKEE, Wis., Manager, J. A. Drummer, 909 Railway Exchange Bldg.
ST. LOUIS, Mo., Manager, O. W. Heintze, 605 Times Bldg.

ENGLAND BLOCKADES THE WORLD

ENGLAND has taken her last desperate stand. If she does not succeed in converting all Germany and Austria-Hungary into one vast concentration camp and forcing them to submit by starving the women, children and old men, she is lost.

Spain is credited with originating concentration camps. Weylerism in Cuba, as it was called, excited the people of the United States so that when the *Maine* was blown up by an unknown hand, we declared war against Spain and emancipated Cuba.

But it remained for the English in the Boer war to develop the concentration camp to a state of supposed perfection. (See THE FATHERLAND of Dec. 2, 1914.) Under Kitchener's expert direction, according to Labouchere, W. T. Stead, and the Boer leaders, 20,000 women and children were destroyed in concentration camps in South Africa. The defeat of the Boers was ascribed jointly to this and the continuous shipment of mules and munitions of war from the United States.

England's paper blockade of German, Austro-Hungarian and Turkish ports is an elaboration of the English concentration plan in Africa. It is an admission of the Allies, led by England, that they cannot conquer the armies of their enemies, although they out-number them five to one. Their last card is a policy of starvation directed against innocent children and defenseless women. Not a sack of flour is permitted to go to a belligerent port —not a drop of milk must reach the parched lips of famishing infants; no medicines must be suffered to pass the Franco-British lines to minister to the sick and bedridden in homes and hospitals.

In all the history of nations this is the greatest crime of which there is any record.

That Britain will go to the last extreme in this direction is shown by her refusal to permit supplies to reach the starving Belgians and French in the districts occupied by the German army. The distressed Belgians and French do not accuse Germany of this condition, but France and England.

This is the humane side of the question. The economical side is another matter. Will the United States and the other neutral nations permit England to destroy their remaining trade? What will the Southern people say when they find that their shipments of cotton must cease? What will the great American industries do when they can no longer ship or receive the raw materials essential to their existence?

Finally, what will the Administration do to protect American interests against the piratical aggressions of the Allied powers?

"THE AMERICAN LEGION"

WHILE we are in entire sympathy with any movement that is intended to stimulate the patriotism of the country in order that it may be prepared for any emergency to defend itself against foreign enemies, no American citizen can be other than affronted by the manner in which the birth of the "American Legion," an organization of first reserves for national defense, is announced.

According to the *Times,* "the organizers want to make clear, first, that it is not an attempt at militarism, and second, that while all who are loyal and patriotic are wanted to join, *there will be small place in its ranks for hyphenated Americans.*" One of the patrons of the movement is Col. Roosevelt.

We should like to ask where Dr. J. E. Hausmann, Arthur S. Hoffman and their associates are going to draw the line: at German-Americans, Irish-Americans, or Anglo-Saxons? They are all hyphenates. Even Dr. Hausmann and Mr. Hoffman have names that sound suspiciously like those of offensive hyphenates.

Is it the intention of admitting as "loyal and patriotic" only those who believe in the justice of the cause of England? Is there to be only one test of eligibility: That you forswear all right to exercise your own judgment, and lay down a confession of faith in the Allied cause?

If this is the platform of the American Legion it is ineligible to exist under its own profession, and might become a danger.

It would be a military organization in conflict with the Constitution, because it undertook to discriminate between citizens of the United States.

However, we do not believe that Dr. Hausmann is authorized by either Col. Roosevelt or Gen. Leonard Wood to put forward any such doctrine. Appearing as the statement does in the *Times*, it is at least open to serious doubt, as that paper proverbially colors its local news to meet the requirements of the English Foreign Office.

THE MILITARY SITUATION

Hindenburg Meets the Grand Duke—M. Sasonoff and England

By the Military Expert of *The Fatherland*

IN spite of all "official" announcements from Petrograd Marshal von Hindenburg's attack upon the right Russian wing has proven to be far more effective and important than could be gathered from the highly colored reports of that part of the American press which for some reason or other is favoring the Allies.

The result of these operations was that more than 110,000 prisoners of war, over 300 cannon, 100 machine guns and vast amounts of war materials were taken by the Germans.

The 10th Russian Army under the command of General Baron von Sievers is destroyed. Only scant remains of this army took refuge behind the protecting forts of the Narev line. The 20th Army Corps lost all of its generals to the Germans.

East Prussia now rejoices being relieved of the Russian yoke, and von Hindenburg has unquestionably become the most popular man throughout the empire.

Even in the press of the neutrals we find here and there a word of recognition for the Marshal and for his brilliant chief of the general staff, von Ludendorff. The fact that a considerable number of the German troops, who won this decisive victory over the Russians, were young, newly trained men, speaks all the more for the spirit that is pervading the ranks, and for the capability of their illustrious leader.

It is hardly possible to predict the final outcome of Hindenburg's latest and thus far greatest success, but even to-day it may safely be assumed that a good step towards the final goal, i. e., rolling up the Russian central positions at the Vistula, is taken.

Grand Duke Nicolaus in the meantime has thrown all his available troops towards the north for the protection of his endangered right wing. Przasnysz, which—on account of its strategic position—was strongly fortified, was taken by the Germans after a severe fight. The forts of Lomza, Ostrolenka and the strong fortress of Novo-Georgievsk are still in the way.

Field Marshal von Bülow, who up till then was in command of the 2nd Army in France, is now directing the operations in East Prussia with Colonel General von Eichhorn.

The campaign of the Teutonic allies in the Bukowina is progressing steadily. Stanislau is captured, and if Czernowitz should be capable of protecting the right wing of this forward movement against an attack upon the flanks, it is to be expected that the siege of Przemysl, which so heroically withstood the fierce attacks of the Russians, will soon be raised.

Thus, after a seven months' campaign, Russia is far from having accomplished her so loudly announced program; she is even further from realizing her plans than she was in the middle of August. Grand Duke Nicolaus and Sir John French will agree and perhaps find consolation in the fact that: It is a long, long way—to Berlin!

When Mr. Asquith, a few days ago, declared in the House of Commons that England, if compelled, would continue the war alone unto the end, he must have thought of the Russian plight and of the discouraging economic and political situation in France. Mr. Asquith's confession is interesting from the psychological point of view. More and more it is becoming evident that the original plot of the Allies to crush Germany is not going to be realized and difficulties are arising now since no real political advantage has been obtained after all this slaughter and sacrifice in blood and money.

Russia went to war because—as the Panslavists, the *Novoje Vremja* and its supporters asserted—the way to Constantinople led over Berlin. This was a historical falsification pure and simple. Not Germany, but England, had blocked Russia's exit to the Mediterranean. And the same England even to-day has not the slightest inclination to endanger her sea-route to India by a Russian Constantinople. Meanwhile the Russian colossus with its annual increase of three million souls received another severe check. Japan has made demands on China which practically make China a vassal state of Japan. Does Mr. Sasonoff really doubt that this program will be realized; or does he believe that Mr. W. J. Bryan's protest will make any impression on Japan?

It seems only too natural that Mr. Sasonoff should demand from England and France that finally, after seven months, they should do something which would open the route from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean for Russia on whose shoulders are resting the chief burden of this conflict. Whether she liked it or not, England had to take this undesirable step. The Dardanelles were bombarded and several of the forts were silenced. The next few days will show whether the Allies will be able to realize their plan. Turkey is fighting for the rest of her European possessions.

At any rate, if England should get possession of the Bosporus, she certainly will not hand it over to Russia; and it is very doubtful that Russian troops will arrive in Constantinople before the British.

Sir Edward Grey, on Febraury 25, with reference to Mr. Sasonoff's political program, made the following statement in the House of Commons: "Mr. Sasonoff has said that the events on the Russo-Turkish frontier would bring Russia near a realization of the political economic problem bound up with Russia's access to the sea. With these aspirations England is in sympathy. What form their realization will take will no doubt be settled in the terms of peace."

Does Mr. Sasonoff understand this clever bit of phraseology? No doubt Sir Edward is his superior. We think that "internationalization" will be the only thing that England finally would consent to. Russia will experience a second "San Stefano."

Meanwhile, this war, which has already given us so many surprises, has forced Germany to take measures which are resembling those of the "Continental System" introduced by Napoleon.

Step by step England compelled Germany, on account of her scrupulous practice of a maritime law based on and backed by *her* naval force alone, and moreover on account of the pressure which she exerted upon the neutrals, to take counter measures.

Since the 18th of February the German submarines have actively blockaded the British commerce, and not without success.

England's mighty navy is powerless and unable to guarantee the security of the British foreign trade. In vain the press and the public are crying for retaliatory measures! The Germans may quietly await them, because it is the neutrals only who may become the victims of Old England's wrath. Time alone will show whether the neutrals are willing to suffer any further encroachments upon their rights and upon the "Freedom of the Seas," and whether they will continue to fill their dailies with stories about the annihilation of "Prussian Militarism."

Will they finally recognize that "though this be madness, yet there is method in it"?

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NEWS FROM GERMANY

By Louis Viereck, Berlin Correspondent

Discontent of English Working Classes

THE excitement among the English working people about the dearth of labor is best seen from the fact that the *Daily Mail* puts much more emphasis to the economic condition of the country and to the raising of the price of coal from 1½ s. to 3 s. per ton than to the war news. According to a report to the *Vorwärts* the *Daily Mail* is attacking the ship-owners because of their unmotivated usurious tariff. Several committees of the workingmen are demanding an interference by the Government against the coal and grain speculators. Bowerman, blaming the Government for having abandoned their attempts to regulate the prices, says that the dearth is especially oppressing the people, since in many cases the people are working only part of the time. Anderson, M. P., recently elected, is demanding the Government ownership of the merchantmen. The Labor party is going to ask for a discussion in Parliament. The secretary of the carriers' union, Williams, declares that the English ship-owners are taking advantage of the monopoly which they have obtained on account of the exclusion of the German ships. The dockers and seamen could have asked for a doubling of their wages, but the ship-owners placed their own interests above those of the people. The increase in the wages of the carriers amounts to about 10 per cent., while the profits of the ship-owners in some cases has increased more than 400 per cent.

Falsification of War Pictures

IN the *Daily Mail* of December 12 and also in the *London Daily Mirror* a picture was published with the following caption: "The fate of the plunderer." This picture was taken at the front and represents a German soldier who was caught plundering a French palace. He was tried by the court-martial and condemned to be shot. His hands were tied behind his back; with his eyes blindfolded he was placed against a tree and shot by seven French soldiers."

Aside from the cold-bloodedness of a photograph of such an event, the picture shows all the signs of a scene set up entirely with an eye for the effect. At the left are the seven soldiers in two rows with leveled rifles. A few steps in front of them stands the officer pointing dramatically with his sword to the victim, whom a closer observation shows to be very strangely clad. First of all, this supposed German soldier wears an article of apparel

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Publisher and Publishers' Representative
Detroit, Mich.

Our Title In Reference To Advertising

Advertising Talk—No. 9

The other day a well-known New York firm, who does considerable advertising nationally, refused this publication their patronage, because they objected to our title, THE FATHERLAND.

Discussing the matter, it developed that there really was not anything, they could definitely define, the matter with our title, after all, only their inclinations were towards England, and they would not encourage any publication whose name suggested Germany.

Of course, we were disappointed at not getting business from these people, yet, in thinking it over, we could not but feel that this criticism was a fine compliment, as, if our title is so strongly expressive, and full of meaning, it surely gives our publication great individuality and character, which every magazine earnestly seeks, but which a good many lack.

Any experienced publisher will affirm that a magazine title which sets people thinking and finds a permanent place in their memory, is one of the hardest things in the world to arrive at. Many a new publication has changed its title more than once in an effort to find a name which would lead the magazine out of the mire of failure to the high road of success. For a good distinctive title such as ours has worth-while pulling qualities, in attracting readers and subscribers, which any really intelligent advertiser ought to take into serious consideration, and, for his own interests, has no reason to find fault with.

While THE FATHERLAND may suggest Germany, to friends of the Allies, to intelligent German-Americans generally, it has a far deeper and broader meaning. Because, while it naturally calls to mind a picture of the Fatherland, across the sea, at the same time, it psychologically reminds them of the great country in which they live, by most evidently referring to something which is not in our midst.

For these and other equally good reasons, it has proved a most satisfactory title to the army of readers who have flocked to its standard, and we cannot but honestly feel that the loss of the advertisers who turned us down, because of our title, was greater on their side than ours.

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which has at least some resemblance to a German military coat. Below this, however, long trousers are visible which fall over the boots, so that only a small piece of these can be seen. It is scarcely necessary to state how little this conforms with the uniform of the German field soldier and his top-boots. The most remarkable part of the uniform is, however, the helmet. It is, to be sure, a Prussian helmet, but without the field-gray covering. This is in itself suspicious, but the way in which the chin-strap of the helmet is placed around the chin of the soldier shows the picture up as nothing but a very clumsy forgery.

Aside from the improbability that a soldier would at such moment put on his helmet, to say nothing of taking down the chin-strap, the way in which it is fastened clearly recalls former pictorial falsifications, in which the chin-strap was down like the English helmet-strap, which is worn around the chin. An example of this was the widely circulated picture in *The War Illustrated* in which German soldiers represented in the act of shooting from a Red Cross wagon are pictured with this helmet-strap fastened in the English fashion. In the same way the bungling work of the falsifier is laid bare in the *Daily Mail*. The entire masquerade is revealed when one considers that that part of the face which is not covered by the bandage has the small mustache and the typically French features of the officer and soldiers at the left of the picture. Such products of a morbid imagination would be ridiculous if it were not for their criminal intention and probable effect of arousing the evil instincts and passions of entire nations and poisoning public opinion.

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At the general meeting, Sir Thomas described the situation as follows:

"Were I to use Winston Churchill's words saying that business is taking its normal course, it would be deviating from the truth. During the months of August and September, the paralysis of our shipping has brought about the greatest collapse in business ever witnessed in the world's history. The deficiency in the annual profits of this company alone amounts to 150,000 pounds sterling and can solely be accounted for by the occurrences of the past two months. We have kept up the shipping service, but frequently the insurance against war-risks exceeded the freight rate.

"In addition to the dangers to which our fleet is exposed, to the reduction of the vessels available for our own requirements and to the general stagnation of business, we had also to face other difficulties. German war news, as well as reports of the feats of the *Emden* have reached the Indian Bazars, where they spread with incredible rapidity and deterred many lascars from enlisting on our ships. Many a time our vessels had to sail with an insufficient crew so that soldiers had to be employed for certain duties. One of the most serious troubles was the supply of coal. Owing to the fact that the Government had commandeered all coal supplies in the Eastern ports, we had to pay enormous prices for fuel, and the freight rates increased with 100 per cent. on shipments for Port Said and Mediterranean ports. Moreover, the Black Sea is closed to British shipping. A great portion of our fleet, amounting to approximately 200,000 tons, has been requisitioned by the Government. This is the first time in the history of shipping concerns that a Government has commandeered vessels, instead of chartering them.

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In God's great battle for the right.
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We shall forever guard the Rhine,
The German Rhine.

Lo, we have buckled on the sword.
Our guns are clean; our helmets flame.
And when our King speaks but the word
We shall go forward with thy name:
Dear fatherland, for thee and thine,
We shall forever guard the Rhine,
The German Rhine.

And when God grants us victory
And we have won on land and sea,
Each heart will glow with love and pride
For those who live and those who died.
Dear fatherland, for thee and thine,
Forever we shall guard the Rhine,
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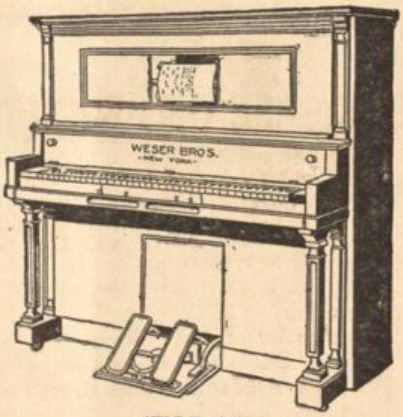

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